



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Alan B. Conley, et al.

Serial No.: 09/886,851

Filed on: June 20, 2001

) Confirmation No.: 6237  
)  
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)  
) Group Art Unit No.: 2171  
)

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Sir:

Applicant(s) would like to bring to the Examiner's attention that the following  
application,

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/676,423 filed September 30, 2003,  
referred to as the "related application", contains subject matter that is related to the subject  
matter of the present application. The related application may contain one or more claims that  
are substantially similar to one or more claims in the present application, and those claims may  
have been rejected in the related application. Therefore, the Examiner is encouraged to review  
the file history of the related application as some of the information contained therein may be  
material to the examination of the present application.

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Throughout the pendency of this application, please charge any additional fees, including any required extension of time fees, and credit all overpayments to deposit account 50-1302. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

HICKMAN PALERMO TRUONG & BECKER LLP

Dated: 7/22/04

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